



April 30, 2021

Mr. Austin F. Callwood, Director  
Division of Environmental Protection  
Department of Planning & Natural Resources  
45 Mars Hill  
Frederiksted, V.I. 00840-4474

**SUBJECT: No. 8 Flare H<sub>2</sub>S Exceedances – April 22- 23, 2021**

Dear Mr. Callwood:

This letter is submitted in compliance with Condition No. 2.4.5.1 of Limetree Bay Title V permit as a follow-up to the email notifications to Ms. Verline Marcellin of the Division of Environmental Protection on April 23, 2021 at 10:04 AM regarding the H<sub>2</sub>S exceedances at the No. 8 Flare.

The Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) recorded H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations in the No. 8 Flare header in excess of 0.1 gr/dscf (162 ppm) based on a 3-hr rolling average (ref. Title V permit condition 3.2.5.5 & 3.2.5.6) from April 22, 2021 to April 23, 2021.

The following table provides 3-hr H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations at the No. 8 Flare during the exceedance event.

Source	FLARE08	Source	FLARE08	Source	FLARE08
Parameter Unit	H2SPPMD (PPM)	Parameter Unit	H2SPPMD (PPM)	Parameter Unit	H2SPPMD (PPM)
04/22/21 17:00	39.4	04/23/21 04:00	2,505.2	04/23/21 15:00	7,459.6
04/22/21 18:00	39.4	04/23/21 05:00	2,590.8	04/23/21 16:00	5,971.0
04/22/21 19:00	39.4	04/23/21 06:00	2,626.7	04/23/21 17:00	7,167.0
04/22/21 20:00	39.4	04/23/21 07:00	3,636.7	04/23/21 18:00	6,291.3
04/22/21 21:00	532.3	04/23/21 08:00	20,495.0	04/23/21 19:00	5,226.0
04/22/21 22:00	1,030.0	04/23/21 09:00	55,482.2	04/23/21 20:00	3,428.2
04/22/21 23:00	1,543.7	04/23/21 10:00	85,449.0	04/23/21 21:00	2,767.3
04/23/21 00:00	1,526.8	04/23/21 11:00	91,649.0	04/23/21 22:00	1,757.9
04/23/21 01:00	1,722.6	04/23/21 12:00	61,742.3	04/23/21 23:00	797.7
04/23/21 02:00	1,958.0	04/23/21 13:00	33,498.8	04/24/21 00:00	90.2
04/23/21 03:00	2,324.7	04/23/21 14:00	11,174.2	04/24/21 01:00	62.2

At approximately 4:45 AM on April 23, 2021, the No. 4 Sulfur Recovery Unit (4SRU) tripped due to both “fire-eye” flame scanners not detecting a flame. At about 5:29 AM, the 4SRU was re-lit and at 7:07 AM the Clean Acid Gas (CAG) control valve at 4SRU started to slowly open but not quick enough to alleviate the pressure in the CAG header. Due to the backpressure in the CAG header, a pressure safety valve (PSV) at the No. 5 Amine Regeneration Unit (5ARU) relieved to the No. 8 Flare. The SO<sub>2</sub> generated from the combustion of H<sub>2</sub>S in the flare header caused odors which impacted our neighbors. Further investigation showed that there was another malfunctioning PSV at the No. 6 Distillate Desulfurizer Unit (DD6), contributing to the elevated H<sub>2</sub>S before the 4SRU trip event. The PSV was taken out of service for maintenance.

To immediately reduce the H<sub>2</sub>S in the flare header, the following corrective actions were implemented:

- H<sub>2</sub>S producing units were shutdown or placed on circulation to reduce the load on the amine regeneration system and the sulfur plant.
- 5ARU was shut down because the PSV continued to leak to the flare even below the PSV setpoint.
- Respond to odor complaints.



Operations have implemented or are in the process of implementing the following measures including, but not limited to:

- Implement the H<sub>2</sub>S load shed procedure - Completed;
- Run both 3SRU and 4SRU at the same time, where the lead SRU receives CAG or Ammonia Acid Gas and the lag SRU is on standby in the event the lead SRU trips - Completed;
- Manufacturer (Honeywell) scheduled to investigate and tune the existing “fire-eye” flame scanners – In progress;
- Program SRU “fire-eye” scanner delay times for both SRUs – In Progress
- Re-range three pressure transmitters in the amine regeneration units and SRUs to 10psi above PSV setpoints – Completed;
- Add electronic indication of acid gas inlet chopper valves in the plant’s control system and plant historian database – In progress

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Maria Aloyo at (340) 692-3781.

Sincerely,

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Neil Morgan  
VP, Refinery and General Manager  
Limetree Bay Refining, LLC

Electronic copy: Verline Marcellin (DPNR)